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New SENASICA System for Import Requirement Sheets (HRZ's)

Report Categories:

Livestock and Products

Poultry and Products

Policy and Program Announcements

Trade Policy Monitoring

FAIRS Subject Report

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Report Highlights:

The Secretariat of Agriculture, Livestock, Rural Development, Fishery and Food (SAGARPA) published on October 13, 2010, a notice in the *Diario Oficial* (Federal Register) that will establish a new on-line system for issuing a Zoosanitary Requirements Sheet ("*Hoja de Requisitos Zoosanitarios*" – HRZ) for the importation of animal products. The new system is intended to simplify administrative procedures and facilitate the trade of animal products. The new on-line system, despite rumors to the contrary, is scheduled to go live on December 13, 2010. On October 19, 2010, Animal Health General Directorate (DGSA) personnel offered and held an informational session to all interested parties explaining the new procedures.

General Information:

Disclaimer: This summary is based on a cursory review of the subject announcement and therefore should not, under any circumstances, be viewed as a definitive reading of the regulation in question, or of its implications for U.S. agricultural export trade interests. In the event of a discrepancy or discrepancies between this summary and the complete regulation or announcement as published in Spanish, the latter shall prevail.

Title: Regulations for obtaining Zoosanitary Requirement Sheets for imports of animal products under regulatory authority of the Secretariat of Agriculture, Livestock, Rural Development, Fishery and Food.

Summary: On October 13, 2010, SAGARPA published a notice in the Federal Register establishing new on-line procedures for obtaining a Zoosanitary Requirements Sheet (*“Hoja de Requisitos Zoosanitarios”* – HRZ) necessary for the importation of animal products that are under SAGARPA’s regulatory authority jurisdiction. This on-line method removes the requirement that the importer of record present all import documents in person at a SAGARPA office. Furthermore, SAGARPA will now issue the requested HRZ electronically. SAGARPA believes simplifying the administrative procedures will facilitate trade in animal products with its trading partners. The new electronic system is scheduled to be in operation from December 13, 2010.

FAS-Mexico Assessment

DGSA officials have explained that the key goal of the new regulations for obtaining HRZs is to facilitate the import of animal products from the United States and Mexico’s other trading partners.

Key points include:

- As with the current system, the importer of record will be responsible for obtaining the HRZs for imported products.
- The electronic system will replace the current method of issuing HRZs and will be operational as of December 13, 2010. Despite the numerous rumors stating the new electronic system would not be available DGSA sources informed FAS Mexico on December 1, 2010, that the system will be operating as scheduled.
- A password-protected website is being developed that will provide real-time information regarding changes to HRZs. Any change to an HRZ must be announced at least two months prior to going into effect. However, in the case of emergency, this time period may be waived and the HRZ may go into effect immediately.
- The process for requesting new HRZs remains the same.
- DGSA officers stated that industry feedback will be key to ensuring that the HRZ’s website is properly updated.

The new electronic system will result in the issuing of an HRZ via two administrative steps. Those steps are:

- The importer of record will log into the electronic system and request each HRZ for the shipment of product to be imported. U.S. exporters and Mexican importers should discuss and agree on which HRZ should be presented for each shipment.
- The Mexican import inspection system and the new electronic system for issuing HRZ will be linked. As such, printing and providing a hardcopy of the HRZ will no longer be required.

Important Dates

1. Publication Date: October 13, 2010
2. Effective Date: December 13, 2010

For more information

FAS Mexico Web Site: We are available at www.mexico-usda.com or visit FAS headquarters' home page at <http://www.fas.usda.gov> for a complete selection of FAS worldwide agricultural reports.

FAS/Mexico YouTube Channel: Catch the latest videos of FAS Mexico at work <http://youtube.com/user/ATOMexuicoCity>

Other Relevant Reports Submitted by FAS/Mexico

Report Number	Subject	Date Submitted
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MX0075	Dairy and Products Annual	10/18/10
MX0076	New Mexican Regulation for Milk and Milk Products	10/18/10
MX0312	Update on Revised NOM-051 Labeling Requirements	10/18/10
MX0074	Mexico to Revise Fruit and Vegetable Import Regulation NOM-008	10/15/10

Useful Mexican Web Sites: Mexico's equivalent of the Department of Agriculture (SAGARPA) can be found at www.sagarpa.gob.mx. This website is mentioned for the readers' convenience but USDA does NOT in any way endorse, guarantee the accuracy of, or necessarily concur with, the information contained on the mentioned site.